

Date: Sun, 14 Mar 93 08:32:06 PST
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #318
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Sun, 14 Mar 93 Volume 93 : Issue 318

Today's Topics:

 A.R.E.S./R.A.C.E.S. (2 msgs)
 A pair of coax <-> ladder line ???
 Customer Service--HRO and others
 Daily Solar Geophysical Data Broadcast for 13 March
 Ham Radio Outlet/Sunnyvale does not have volunteers...they are paid
 Ham Radio Outlet incident
 HF mobile linear - info wanted on any.
 In Defense of HRO (Re: Ham Radio Outlet incident)
 Metal rails and ICOM-style battery packs
 need help (7X)
 Old Satellite dish
 Repair my HW-101??
 Richard E. Depew/ Northeastern Ohio College of Medicine
 TOWER question: conducting vs. non-conducting guys?
 Update on FL hams ordered to remove tower, stop transmitting
 VHF Car Antenna: 1/2 or 1/4 wave??
 VK2WI Weekly News, 14th March 1993

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Sat, 13 Mar 1993 23:46:11 GMT
From: haven.umd.edu!wam.umd.edu!adam@uunet.uu.net
Subject: A.R.E.S./R.A.C.E.S.
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1nt674INNcb3@usenet.INS.CWRU.Edu> cs527@cleveland.Freenet.Edu (Stephen

F. Nowak) writes:

>

>I'm looking for the good, the bad and, of course, the ugly about
>the use of amateur radio to provide emergency communications. If
>you have an idea, opinion, suggestion or experience in this area,
>please drop me a line.

Well, I have had a couple of experiences (sorta) in the area...there is a
repeater here in Jessup Maryland with WIDE area coverage (like most of the
state)...well anyway, some guy was yelling CQ on there at something like
4 a.m...I heard it and called the state police (he told me a deer was lying
just about gonzo in the middle of I-95)...but the guy was a good 40 miles
away from me...I've also called the police for other similar relay messages,
too. It worked okay for us.

--Adam

N3NKI

Date: Sun, 14 Mar 1993 07:50:05 GMT

From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!gatech!
darwin.sura.net!sgiblab!a2i!davidj@network.UCSD.EDU

Subject: A.R.E.S./R.A.C.E.S.

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Depends on what you're looking for. Like most volunteer groups, ARES/RACES
can get mired in internal politics. But it can also muster a strong and
practical expedient comm net that the public service agencies never get
around to doing, because it doesn't bite them in the rear every day like
all their other problems.

Just what kind of good, bad, ugly did you have in mind?

73

David WA6NMF

--

Josephson Engineering, San Jose California
Tel/ 408-238-6062 Fax/ 408-238-6022
email:david@josephson.com

MICROPHONES
INSTRUMENTATION

Date: Sun, 14 Mar 1993 15:14:51 GMT

From: sdd.hp.com!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!gatech!kd4nc!
ke4zv!gary@network.UCSD.EDU

Subject: A pair of coax <-> ladder line ???

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1219@arrl.org> zlau@arrl.org (Zack Lau) writes:

>I looked a bit harder into this and it seems that the excess loss
>was probably due to the cables not being precisely matched in electrical
>length--at least this is one theoretical explanation.

The solution to this problem is to use Twinax, factory siamese cabling that should be of the same length and from the same lot. That's about as close a practical matching as you're likely to get. Stuff is cheap surplus too.

>Also, twin lead made out of 4 coax cables, two in parallel
>on each side, gives you a 50 ohm cable, with no improvement in line
>loss over just one unbalanced cable. But, if the cables aren't
>matched precisely, the line loss increases.

>

>Bottom line--you can get balance but not lower loss by using coax
>pairs as twin lead.

Actually you can, but you have to feed the shields and ignore the center conductors. :-)

Gary

--

Gary Coffman KE4ZV		You make it,		gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems		we break it.		uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way		Guaranteed!		emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
Lawrenceville, GA 30244				

Date: Sun, 14 Mar 1993 04:34:54 GMT

From: news.cerf.net!proton!psi.llumc.edu!britton@network.UCSD.EDU

Subject: Customer Service--HRO and others

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In reading the recent spate of complaints concerning the preceived lack of customer service at various HRO, Radio Shack, Sears, and other retail stores, I am amazed at the high level of customer frustration expressed.

It's no wonder that mail order thrives! Apparently, quite a number of people who ought to know better have forgotten a basic rule the marketplace: companies survive and prosper only to the extent that they meet the needs of their customers. A business which places its own needs ahead of its customer's needs is doomed to fail, whether it is a one-man push cart or General Motors. It just takes a bit longer with General Motors, so they

GOES6-MAX=P:+137NT@ 1700UT GOES6-MIN=N:-125NT@ 0314UT G6-AVG=+090,-003,-056
FLUXFCST=STD:140,135,130;SESC:140,135,130 BAI/PAI-FCST=040,035,015/050,040,020
KFCST=1556 6555 6666 5551 27DAY-AP=005,004 27DAY-KP=2311 1121 1112 2111
WARNINGS=*MAJFLR;*SWF;*PROTON;*PCA;*JSTRM;*AURMIDWRN;*AURLLOWCH;*FORBUSH;
*MAGPAUSE
ALERTS=**245STRM:0930-2121UTC;**PROTNENH;**PCAENH
!!END-DATA!!

Date: 14 Mar 1993 00:18:59 GMT
From: cronkite.cisco.com!pst@ames.arpa
Subject: Ham Radio Outlet/Sunnyvale does not have volunteers...they are paid
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I was down at HRO today, and I asked them point blank about this.
Gee, verifying facts in USENET? What a concept.

OK, you pinheads, here's the scoop from HRO:

HRO does hire part-time staff for heavy days (i.e. Saturday). They are paid, albiet a very low wage (I would assume they are making minimum). They say they do it because they get exposure to new radios (play in the toy store), to meet the people they hear on the air, and they get the standard fringe benefits that a full-time HRO employee gets.

Of course they can ring up sales, they can answer questions, and the do or don't provide service, just like anyone else. These guys are like normal human beings, they either are good, or they are misinformed.

What it comes down to is this... you've got a few choices:

- (a) HRO limits their staff to full time employees, which means on Saturday mornings, you wait 3 hours for help.
- (b) HRO hires the kind of staff that you can pay low wages to...
"Would you like fries with your HT?"
- (c) HRO hires low-paid staff who are hams who know something about radio (maybe not everything!) who are there for the fringe benefits listed above.

Which would you rather have? I think I'd prefer (c), but then again, unless you own part of HRO, your opinion doesn't count for shit, so why are you people wasting USENET bandwidth with your random flames?

Next time, at least have the decency to do some research before flaming off.

--

Tiefer, tiefer, irgendwo in der Tiefe gibt es ein Licht!

Date: Sat, 13 Mar 93 03:48:02 EST

From: sdd.hp.com!cs.utexas.edu!swrinde!emory!gatech!kd4nc!vdbsan!willard!blackwlf!
nj8j!ben@network.UCSD.EDU

Subject: Ham Radio Outlet incident

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

MOSIER@iris.uncg.EDU (Steve Mosier) writes:

> And I don't like seeing ads with "CALL" in place of the price
> for either cameras or radios.

Ditto here. And if you do bother to call up for a price, it's almost
always the same price everyone else sells the gear for.

Ben

Ben Coleman NJ8J	"All that is not eternal is
Packet: NJ8J@W4Q0.#EAL.#ATL.GA.USA.NA	eternally irrelevant."
Internet: ben@nj8j.atl.ga.us	
or ben@nj8j.blackwlf.mese.com	C. S. Lewis

Date: 14 Mar 1993 12:25:27 GMT

From: mvb.saic.com!unogate!news.service.uci.edu!usc!howland.reston.ans.net!
bogus.sura.net!darwin.sura.net!sgiblab!munnari.oz.au!uniwa!

cpelham@network.UCSD.EDU

Subject: HF mobile linear - info wanted on any.

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I have been looking for a mobile HF linear 500W say to use with a ts440.
But can't seem to find a commercial supplier. CAN anyone point me in the right
direction ?

73

Cres VK6YX

--

Cres Thursby-Pelham

Department of Education

The University of Western Australia
ph: +61 9 385 8011 fax: +61 9 385 7159 ham: VK6YX

Date: 11 Mar 93 20:48:59 GMT
From: usc!howland.reston.ans.net!agate!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!neoucom.edu!aldhfn!
aldhfn!fredmail@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: In Defense of HRO (Re: Ham Radio Outlet incident)
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Organization: Northwestern University, Evanston Illinois.

In article <GRUND.93Mar11142119@pyrite.som.cwru.edu> grund@pyrite.SOM.CWRU.edu (Victor Grund) writes:

>
>It is worth mentioning that I've had nothing but good experiences with
>HRO. In December, I bought an Alinco 580 HT from them. About a day
>after it arrived at my house, the transmitter portion of the radio
>stopped working. A simple 5 minute phone call to HRO was all it took
>for them to send USP back out to pickup the radio and send a new one
>in its place. All I did was box up the old radio and wait for the UPS
>guy. I didn't even pay return shipping, highly unusual for a mail
>order firm. The mailing delays drove me crazy, but this is par for
>the course with a mail order firm and especially understandable given
>that it was just before Christmas.
>
>It is also worth mentioning that HRO had the lowest price I could find
>on the Alinco at the time.
>
>I've never been to their outlet stores, but agree that it would be
>nice to see prices posted at their stores, where it would be less
>complicated to make posted price adjustments.
>

I too have had very pleasant experience with HRO-Denver. About a year ago I decided to get a dual bander 2m/70cm FM mobile rig and picked Yaesu 5200. Got it from HRO Denver as it had the lowest price and did not charge shipping. I had devil of a time using our repeater because the PL crystal in the radio was faulty. (A fact that Yaesu did not acknowledge till 4 months after my trials and tribulations.) The machine that I use has an old reed based PL tone decoder that is very finicky and would sporadically not accept the PL tone from the Yaesu.

I called HRO and they promptly shipped me a new Yaesu 5200. Same problem.

Called them again and they rushed me a Kenwood 741 (I got sick of talking with Yaesu about a problem they did not want to deal with - yet).

In any case, at one point I had three (yes three) radios at home when my card had been charged only for one. They paid all the shipping, to and fro, from Denver to me in Northbrook, IL.

>(I have no affiliation with HRO except as a satisfied customer.)

>

And I.

Rajiv
aa9ch

Date: Thu, 11 Mar 1993 14:23:06 GMT
From: haven.umd.edu!darwin.sura.net!knuth.mtsu.edu!raider!theporch!jackatak!
jackhill@ames.arpa
Subject: Metal rails and ICOM-style battery packs
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

a-kevinp@microsoft.COM (Kevin Purcell, Rho) writes:

> Do any of the battery companies make ICOM style replacement battery
> packs with metal rails.

Ah, yes...but I am an old buzzard with an OLD IC-2AT (bought used about 12 years ago) and both the radio and battery packs have metal rails. I didn't understand this thread for a while, but then it sunk in: Maybe, just maybe if I had had cheap plastic rails on the battery and tranceiver case, I wouldn't have to hold the damned thing together with masking tape to keep the two pieces connected. ;^)

You see, Kevin, the rig got dropped, and the tranceiver case cracked and battery rails bent, and now it wants to slide apart at bad moments. Tape works, but looks bad. Then again, I could probably drive nails with the radio without damaging it much (or maybe even use it to brute force ground rods? ;^)...and, it ain't fer sale! ;^) Too damn dependable. Good tight front end. No bells and whistles to break...Maybe it *won't* remind me to brush my teeth or listen to everything from DC to daylight (all at once, if my reading of other threads on multi-band HT's is correct! ;^) but it WORKS, it manages

144-148Mhz pretty well, thank you very much, and it has certainly been worth the \$200 I spent on it 12 years ago...

> All info and experiences welcome.
maybe except for old buzzard reports about boatanchor H/Ts (oops! I forgot...no Japanese radio is a boatanchor! ;^)

73

```
+-----+
| Jack GF Hill          Voice: (615) 459-2636   jackhill@jackatak.raider.net |
| P. O. Box 1685        Modem: (615) 377-5980       Compu$erve 76427,31 |
| Brentwood, TN 37024   Bicycling and SCUBA Diving      Ham Call: W4PPT |
+-----+
```

Date: 12 Mar 93 20:04:26 GMT
From: pipex!bnr.co.uk!uknet!marble.uknet.ac.uk!mcsun!julienas!babbage!isis!imag!
kannat@uunet.uu.net
Subject: need help (7X)
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Hi,

Do any body have suggestions to make on the RX-TX (stations) actually available. I'm an algerian (7X) station and I want to buy an equipement which offers good functionalities with a reasonable price. This station is intended to be connected to a PC/AT, so it's important to have one with the appropriated interfaces.

Thanks,

S.E

Salah Eddine KANNAT,

Mail Address:	E-mail: kannat@imag.fr
46 avenue Felix Viallet	
38031 Grenoble - France	Tel : (+33) 76.57.46.94

Date: Sat, 13 Mar 1993 07:44:44 -0600
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!spool.mu.edu!news.cs.indiana.edu!
umn.edu!kksys.com!tdkt!FredGate@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Old Satellite dish
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

SA>From: sadams@eis.calstate.edu (Steven Adams)
SA>Newsgroups: rec.radio.amateur.misc
SA>Organization: Calif State Univ/Electronic Information Services

SA>I'm a fairly new HAM with an old satellite dish that is no longer used.
SA>It was one of the stationary type.
SA>Is it of any use to me for any future HAM use?
SA>Or should I just junk it?

Yes, you should just junk it. However, due to recent EPA rulings, satellite dishes must be shipped to an approved SDDS (Satellite Dish Disposal Site). Unfortunately there is only one site presently approved and open because of the newness of the EPA regulations. It's here in Minnesota, just behind my garage.

Let me know how your shipping it!

73 de KA0GKC

* SLMR 2.1a * It's cold in Minnesota!

Date: Sat, 13 Mar 1993 02:57:52 GMT
From: agate!howland.reston.ans.net!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!sdd.hp.com!
hpscit.sc.hp.com!hplextra!hpfcs!hplvec!bagdy@ames.arpa
Subject: Repair my HW-101??
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I would like to know your opinion of fixing up my old HW-101.

I built it in 1976. My dad has it now and is interested in getting it "spruced up". It needs a few repairs, in addition to replacing the old rubber belts.

I've noticed some nice used rigs for about \$450. I wonder if it's worth the repair? Does the HW-101 retain any "fossil value"?

Can anyone recommend a reputable HW-101 repair tech.? Preferably in the Long Island area. (MY dad's in Huntington, LI).

Thanks for any inputs!

Mark
NOKFI

Date: Sat, 13 Mar 1993 21:00:41 GMT
From: europa.eng.gtefsd.com!news.ans.net!newsgate.watson.ibm.com!
yktnews.watson.ibm.com!The-Village!waterbed@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Richard E. Depew/ Northeastern Ohio College of Medicine
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In <1993Mar13.185630.20771@fuug.fi> an8785@anon.penet.fi (8 February 1993) writes:
>

>If do not think Richard E. DepewUs (red@uhura.neoucom.edu) censoring
>postings *you* may wish to read by beginning a "canceling war," a good idea,
>please write directly to:

Who should we write to if we think that anonymous postings should be limited
to *only* the personals groups and help groups (e.g., alt.sexual.abuse.recovery)?

>Please report any problems, inappropriate use etc. to admin@anon.penet.fi.

Sounds like a good place to start...

--

Larry Margolis, MARGOLI@YKTVMV (Bitnet), margoli@watson.IBM.com (Internet)

Date: Sun, 14 Mar 1993 04:27:38 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!usc!rpi!
psinntp!psinntp!gdstech!gdstech!bat@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: TOWER question: conducting vs. non-conducting guys?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Breaking up the cable into non-resonant lengths is the right thing to
do. Another way of accomplishing this, is by putting ferrite 'beads'
on the cables. Perhaps the Radio Shack clamp-on beads for 59u would
work. They would prbably need some serious weatherproffing, though.

--

* Pat Masterson D12-25 | KE2LJ@KC2FD *
* Grumman Data Systems | 516-346-6316. *
* Bethpage, NY 11746 | bat@gdstech.grumman.com *

Date: Sat, 13 Mar 1993 22:33:19 GMT
From: world!sharon@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Update on FL hams ordered to remove tower, stop transmitting
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

There was a request for more information about the case of two Florida hams who were ordered by a county judge to take down their antenna tower.

Here is the latest:

David K. (WA4NST) and Sharon T. (N4XLF) Brower recently lost a two-year legal battle over their 68-foot antenna tower. In his final judgment for the plaintiffs (7 households), Judge Charles E. Smith of the 19th Judicial Circuit in and for Indian River county, FL, found the radio transmissions to be a noxious and offensive activity, and the appearance of the tower and antennas an annoyance and nuisance to the neighborhood. ``This large, tall tower and antenna sticks out like an eyesore to this subdivision and neighborhood.'` Smith also ruled that the tower is a ``building'` which exceeds the two-story building limit in the deed restrictions, although the deed restrictions are silent about antenna support structures.

Pending appeal, the Browsers have been enjoined from making ANY radio transmissions from their home!!!

There is a fear that if the Browsers' appeal is unsuccessful, it will set a dangerous precedent for any ham whose neighbors don't like the way their antennas look and complain about interference to consumer electronics. Like the Browsers, the hams could be ordered to remove their towers and cease all radio transmissions.

A fund has been established to assist with the legal costs associated with this case. Contact: The Brower Legal Defense Trust,
James H. Laseter, N4ZYX, Trustee, 2716 Robin St., Ft. Pierce, FL 34982

Sharon, KC1YR

--

Sharon Machlis Gartenberg
Framingham, MA USA
e-mail: sharon@world.std.com

Date: Sun, 14 Mar 1993 15:10:40 GMT
From: sdd.hp.com!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!gatech!kd4nc!
ke4zv!gary@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: VHF Car Antenna: 1/2 or 1/4 wave??
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1nt222INNbj4@hp-col.col.hp.com> bobw@col.hp.com (Bob Witte) writes:
>trepanim@ERE.UMontreal.CA (Trepanier Martin) writes:

>
> The 1/2 wave antenna is very valuable in tough situations. (And by the
> wave, many/some of the 2M/70cm dual band antennas are a 1/2 wave on 2M.)
> Anyway, the usefullness of the 1/2 wave is when you don't have a good
> ground plane underneath the antenna. This is NOT just an issue for
> fiberglass body cars and boats. If you end up mounting an antenna on
> the corner of a vehicle for one reason or another a 1/4 wave or 5/8 wave
> will not work as well as a 1/2 wave due to the asymmetrical (read "poor")
> ground plane.

Actually, *any* antenna mounted asymmetrically on a metal car body will have an asymmetric pattern due to near field effects. Whether it's design is ground independent or not doesn't make any real difference. The only time you can get a pattern approaching symmetric with an asymmetrically mounted antenna is when the vehicle is non-metallic.

Gary

--

Gary Coffman KE4ZV		You make it,		gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems		we break it.		uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way		Guaranteed!		emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
Lawrenceville, GA 30244				

Date: Sun, 14 Mar 93 12:04:48 GMT
From: sdd.hp.com!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!darwin.sura.net!sgiblab!munnari.oz.au!
metro!ipso!runxtsa!cheese@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: VK2WI Weekly News, 14th March 1993
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Mar14.103132.5221@runx.oz.au> richardm@runx.oz.au (Richard Murnane) writes:

> WICEN NEWS
>
>WICEN is always looking for new members to provide the
>community with communications assistance when required, and

How long does it take to process membership applications? Just that I sent mine off about 6 weeks ago and haven't heard anything. I'm not impatient, I just don't trust snail mail implicitly :-)

-Mark

--

Mark Cheeseman, Your Computer. cheese@runx.oz.au Fido: 3:712/412.0
Phn: +61 2 353 0143 Fax: +61 2 353 0720 AMPRnet: coming RSN!
This .sig is under warranty. Do not open. No user-serviceable parts inside.

End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #318
